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Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Identical letters dated 10 February 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

I would like to draw your attention to the purposeful work of the Republic of Belarus on broadening its cooperation with international organizations, above all the United Nations, in the sphere of the maintenance of international peace and security.

On 1 October 2001, the Republic of Belarus and the United Nations signed a memorandum on mutual understanding regarding the participation of Belarus in the system of reserve agreements. The fundamental readiness of Belarus to contribute to the United Nations civil police force is stated in the attachment to the memorandum.

On 29 November 2003, the Republic of Belarus enacted a law on the procedure for sending military personnel, commanding staff and the ranks of state organs responsible for the interior, organs responsible for financial investigations of the State Control Committee of the Republic of Belarus, organs and units responsible for emergencies, as well as civil personnel outside the Republic of Belarus, to participate in activities for maintaining international peace and security. The law envisages a possibility for Belarusian personnel, civil and military contingents to take part in peacekeeping operations carried out in pursuance of Security Council decisions adopted on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as peacekeeping operations conducted under the aegis of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

In addition to the enactment of the above-mentioned law, the process of creating the legal basis for the full participation of Belarusian personnel in the activities of international organizations for the maintenance of international peace and security has been completed.

The Republic of Belarus expresses its intention to contribute to international efforts in this area and expresses its hope to receive assistance from the international community, above all from the United Nations, in implementing training projects for Belarusian specialists, both in Belarus and abroad.

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We should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of the present letter to be circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 85.

(*Signed*) Aleg **Ivanou**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.